

# Summary Report

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: August 20, 2025

## Reports

1. **Chair's Report** – Hovland reported that the Regional Solicitation Policymaker Work Group and TAB Executive Committee met prior to the TAB meeting.
2. **MnDOT Report** – Sahebjam reported that in the metro area, as of July 30, there were 83 fatalities (40% of the fatalities in the state); of which 14 were pedestrian, 12 motorcycles (34% of statewide), and a couple bicycle. As of August 20, there were 219 fatalities in the state, compared to 274 in 2024 at the same time; of which 23 were pedestrian, 37 motorcycle, 8 bicycle, and 5 ATV. The Minnesota Highway Freight Program solicitation ends on September 3. The federal IIJA ends September 30, 2026. The federal government and Congress are working on the next bill. Construction will be winding down for the year.
3. **MPCA** – Smith reported that the VW Settlement program has an open grant for freight switch locomotive replacements until October 22. A Request for Proposals for EV Fast Chargers will open soon. We have been experiencing issues with air quality over the past few months. The air quality alerts are higher because of Canadian fires. EPA has an open comment period related to rolling back vehicle emission standards for Green House Gases. MPCA will be at the State Fair at Eco Experience.
4. **MAC Report** – No report.
5. **Metropolitan Council Report** – Barber reported that microtransit started in north Minneapolis and extended it to Roseville and Woodbury. Ridership has increased from 200 rides a week in January to 1,500 rides per week in August. New microtransit service was launched in Bloomington on August 16. The next microtransit service implementation will be in Blaine in September.
6. **Suburban Transit Association** – Hansen reported Suburban transit providers report express/fixed route ridership increases of up to 26% and microtransit increases of up to 40% year-over-year. SouthWest Transit's airport route ridership has doubled since launching in April. Minnesota Valley Transit Authority Connect service is averaging nearly 600 rides daily. The Maple Grove Transit and Plymouth Metrolink joint transit needs assessment study is expected to result in implementation of service changes around year-end, including additional express and microtransit service. MVTA and Southwest Transit are providing service to all 12 days of the Minnesota State Fair. They also are offering weekend service to the Renaissance Festival. See mvta.com and swtransit.org for details.

## Business

TAB approved the following items (forwarded to the Transportation Committee).

1. 2025-20: Corridors of Commerce Readiness Recommendation (August 25, 2025, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Metropolitan Council recommend the City of Anoka's Highway 47/BNSF Railway Crossing Project to MnDOT for scoring consideration in the Corridors of Commerce Readiness Advancement solicitation.

2. 2025-18: Scope Change: MVTA Technology and ADA Enhancements Project

The Transportation Advisory Board approved a scope change request to replace technology and ADA improvements at 53 bus stops/shelters and four MVTA transit hubs with enhanced improvements to eight transit facilities in MVTA's technology and ADA enhancements project (SP# TRS-TCMT-24K) with no reduction in federal funds.

3. 2025-19: 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (August 25, 2025, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board accepted the 2026-2029 TIP Public Comment Report and recommended adoption of the draft 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

4. 2025-26: TPP Aviation System Plan Update Release for Public Comment (September 8, 2025, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Metropolitan Council release the draft 2050 TPP Amendment 2: Aviation System Plan Update for public review and comment.

5. 2025-27: 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (September 8, 2025, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended adoption of the 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

6. 2025-28: Program Year Extension: St. Paul Arlington Avenue Sidewalk Infill

The Transportation Advisory Board approved Saint Paul's Program year extension request to move its Arlington Avenue sidewalk project from 2026 to 2027.

## Information

1. Mobility Improvements

Charles Carlson, MTS, and Matt Fyten, MVTA, presented this item.

In response to a question on the demographics of users, Fyten responded that MVTA collects information with onboard surveys. TAB members requested information on ridership and performance on each individual program.

The 2023 route performance report is here:

<https://metro council.org/Transportation/Publications-And-Resources/Transit/REGIONAL-ROUTE-PERFORMANCE-ANALYSIS/Performance-Evaluation-for-2023/Regional-Route-Performance-Analysis-for-2023.aspx>.

Route-by-route data is available here: <https://metro council.org/Transportation/Publications-And-Resources/Transit/REGIONAL-ROUTE-PERFORMANCE-ANALYSIS/Performance-Evaluation-for-2023/Supporting-data-for-Regional-Route-Performance-Ana.aspx>.

The 2024 route profile is currently in development and will be completed later this year.

2. Minnesota Go Vision Update

Whitney Mason, MnDOT, presented this item. TAB members were requested to provide input and share the link to the full survey, [Phase 1 Public Engagement Survey | Let's Talk Transportation - MnDOT](#).

3. Regional Solicitation Evaluation Updates

Hovland provided an update on the Policymaker Work Group meeting. There was



discussion on how to allocate funding based on an outcome based approach; whether to have ranges for each category or not. The hope that they gave the technical committees some direction for discussion.

Martinson provided an update on the Active Transportation Work Group. The next meeting is scheduled on August 25. The work group will discuss funding considerations including, the percent of local match, project minimums and maximums, how much of the sales tax funding collected to allocate in 2026, and a policy to determine how much funding to hold in reserve. The first Active Transportation project selected in 2024 has been completed. A ribbon-cutting will be held in Jordan on August 27 at 3:00 pm.

Link to August 20, 2025, TAB agenda and materials, [082025 Agenda - Transportation Advisory Board](#).

